

IMAGINings!

A Publication of The Imagination Network

December 1994

VOL. 2 • NO. 12



Whether you've been naughty or nice, Santa *will* answer your letters this year via E-mail on The Imagination Network.

To put in your special requests, write to Santa in care of Imagination at E-mail Box 123. But hurry – if you want a personalized response to arrive in your mailbox before December 25, you should write no later than December 15!

Last year, Santa was quite busy, answering hundreds of letters from kids of all ages. We thought you might enjoy reading through some of the letters sent last year to the Jolly Old Man...

Dear Santa,

I am a 41-year-old little kid. Dig around in your pack and see if you can find me a tall blonde who looks like Meg Ryan. And while I'm making your job hard, I'd like a new BMW (style doesn't matter) and a cruise to the Caribbean sometime this winter. And just so you'll know, I've never stopped believing in you. Merry Christmas!

Dear Santa,

The only thing I want for Christmas is for my little brother to get well and come home from the hospital.

My dad says he'll be OK, but I'm worried about him.

He needs a new TV for his room, some cowboy pajamas and a whole bunch of board games like Monopoly, Scrabble and CandyLand. If you could find a deck of cards, we could play War or Go Fish together.

If he does get to come home and you have any extras, I still like dolls and my dollhouse is falling apart.

And don't forget that I leave cookies and milk out for you every year.

SANTA HAS E-MAIL!

Dear Santa,
My name is Jason and I'm three years old. My daddy is helping me write this letter to you. Here's what I want for Christmas.

A Big Wheel

A gun and holster set

A pair of cowboy boots

A cowboy hat

A big swing set for my backyard

And a real horse.

I want to call him Wings.

I hope you can find these things at the North Pole because we're going to leave milk and cookies out for you – my mom said she'd make some.

I love you Santal

IMAGINATION'S TOP TEN THINGS TO DO WHEN YOU'RE SNOWED IN...

- 10 Dust off your chessboard and "play along" with the masters
- 9 Jump in with both feet and learn a new game by playing
- 8 Catch up on your correspondence. Make a list of all those dear folks you owe letters to, and write, write, write!
- 7 Check in with an old friend you haven't chatted with in a while
- 6 Learn something new about a game you've become a fanatic about
- 5 Pretend it's Valentine's Day and send a love note "from your secret admirer"
- 4 Open your mind to learning with a challenging course at INN University
- 3 Create a masterpiece on the animation bulletin board
- 2 Reach out a helping hand to a newcomer on Imagination
- 1 Become your dream – Imagination lets you be who you want to be!

TAKE CARE

This winter, you're likely to spend more time than ever cooped up to the keyboard. You **know** what they say about an ounce of prevention. Proper posture and equipment can help you minimize the risk of repetitive strain injury. So sit up straight, don't slouch at the keyboard, and support your wrists with a pad so the tops of your hands are nearly flat.

Totally Team Bridge

You asked for it, now you've got it. Team Bridge will at long last be available on The Imagination Network in the upcoming Version 2.4 available in early 1995.

In Team Bridge, two teams of four or more players challenge each other. One "pair" of one team sits "North-South" at one table. The other sits "East-West" at the other table. The same cards are played at both tables, and scoring is based upon how well each team scored with those cards, compared to the other team.

As you might guess, Team Bridge is a game where skill, not cards, determines the winner.

Imagination's Team Bridge begins with an eight player invitation. The inviter (North at table one) chooses a partner and two teammates, as well as two opponents who will be East-West at table one.

Other exciting features:

- ♥ Teams of more than four players can switch players halfway through a match.
- ♠ Results are saved after each hand, so that you can pick up where you left off if the game is interrupted for any reason.
- ♦ Each of the players can choose their own names for the save file that keeps a record of the game.
- ♣ Choose from the three major forms of scoring: International Match Points, Board-A-Match and Total Points.

WHAT'S THE SCORE?

When you play Team Bridge on The Imagination Network, you can choose from three forms of scoring: International Match Points (IMP), Board-A-Match (BAM) and Total Points.

Which one should you choose? It depends on how well you play and what style of game you like best.

The most straightforward is Total Points, where your team's scores on all hands are added together and compared to the other team's total.

In IMP scoring, your relative plus or minus score on each hand is converted from the raw score using a sliding scale. And in BAM if your team has more points in a hand than your opponent's, you win a BAM point and the team with the most BAM points wins.



SHOOTING IN SHANGRI LA

The Eric Lawton Celebrity Conference

Eric Lawton found his own Shangri La by traveling around the world. Some highlights from the conference held live on October 30:

Eric Lawton: My book, *The Soul of the World*, has been out for about a year now and has brought me in touch with a lot of travelers. I've been meeting with other artists and travelers in order to discuss our reactions and impressions of the remote parts of the world. Have any of you seen the book?

MikeB: I have the book. Yes, the pictures are amazing!

JoeM: Mr. Lawton, what is it like to travel the world?

Eric Lawton: It's one of the greatest experiences that I have ever encountered, particularly when you can find enough time to really get to know a place. I was lucky to be able to spend three years on the road traveling through over 70 countries. It gave me the chance to spend time in a place, get to know the people, and remain until it was time to go. For me it is that "dwelling time" that gives the truest insight into a place.

MikeB: Who, would you say, are some of your greatest influences?

Eric Lawton: My early influences in photography came from *Life* magazine and the work of Eugene Smith, who did the great photographic essays in the 1960s. Other great influences include Paul Caponigro, whose mystical landscapes are truly inspiring. Other photographers who really have influenced me have been Jerry Uelsmann, whose surrealistic photographs I find to be some of the most profound.

lps: What is the most "spiritual" place that you have traveled?

Eric Lawton: I have found many "spiritual places." Those that I found overseas include Bhutan, which is nestled between India, Nepal and China, and which is the closest thing to Shangri La that I have ever found.



Eric Lawton writes, "The sacred Himalayan mountain Machapouchare (22,958 ft.) has never been climbed. Nepalese legend holds that goddesses reside on its peak."

These Imagination members won autographed copies of Eric Lawton's book, *The Soul of the World*: Fish, Salem, Craig, Aaron and ChrisN.

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

Medieval/Land Guilds

Continued on page 4

7 a.m. **Continued**
League Of Villains
SINGLES TCU
(P)Rock 80228)
8:00 a.m. **High Noon**
SINGLES TCU
(L)M 80444)
9:00 a.m. **High Noon**
SINGLES TCU
(L)M 80444)
9:00 a.m. **High Noon**
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9:00 a.m. **High Noon**
SINGLES TCU
(L)M 80444)
9:00 a.m. **High Noon**
SINGLES TCU
(L)M 80444)

MONDAY
Need a little help with your homework? Our homework hotline is now available **FOUR DAYS A WEEK**. Mon - Thurs, from 4-6 p.m. Pacific time at IMU University.

TUESDAY
Twelve Over Very Good
CHESS CLUB
(D)Rock 80228)
7:00 a.m. **Continued**
League Of Villains
SINGLES TCU
(P)Rock 80228)
8:00 a.m. **High Noon**
SINGLES TCU
(L)M 80444)
9:00 a.m. **High Noon**
SINGLES TCU
(L)M 80444)

THURSDAY
ITHELPS!
New to Imaginings? Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. works time, get the information you need to navigate this world of Imaginings. These special classes for new members meet at the top of each hour in the **HELP ROOM**.

FRIDAY
7 p.m. **Continued**
SDP: Royal Lance
SINGLES TCU
(L)M 80444)
8:00 a.m. **High Noon**
SINGLES TCU
(L)M 80444)
9:00 a.m. **High Noon**
SINGLES TCU
(L)M 80444)

Music

8:00 a.m. **Courtney Love Fan Club**
TEEN MAGAZINE
(Courtney, 55414)

8:00 a.m. **Police Club**
TEEN MAGAZINE
(Police, 55414)

8:00 a.m. **They Might Be Giants**
TEEN MAGAZINE
(They Might Be Giants, 55414)

8:00 a.m. **They Might Be Giants**
TEEN MAGAZINE
(They Might Be Giants, 55414)

8:00 a.m. **They Might Be Giants**
TEEN MAGAZINE
(They Might Be Giants, 55414)

Political & Social Issues

7:00 a.m. **Continued**
League Of Villains
SINGLES TCU
(P)Rock 80228)

7:00 a.m. **Continued**
League Of Villains
SINGLES TCU
(P)Rock 80228)

7:00 a.m. **Continued**
League Of Villains
SINGLES TCU
(P)Rock 80228)

7:00 a.m. **Continued**
League Of Villains
SINGLES TCU
(P)Rock 80228)

7:00 a.m. **Continued**
League Of Villains
SINGLES TCU
(P)Rock 80228)

Red Horse Squads

3:00 a.m. **GH Squads Operations**
PLISTS LOUNGE
(P)Rock 80228)
4:00 a.m. **GH Squads Operations**
PLISTS LOUNGE
(P)Rock 80228)
5:00 a.m. **GH Squads Operations**
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6:00 a.m. **GH Squads Operations**
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12:00 a.m. **GH Squads Operations**
PLISTS LOUNGE
(P)Rock 80228)

Let the Games Begin
As the Imaginings Network has grown, the number of online tournaments and clubs has skyrocketed.
It's simple to register your tournament or club: write to the Club Registry at E-mail Box 699, or drop us a line at Imaginings, 577 Airport Blvd., Suite 300, Burlingame, CA 94010.

Religious & Spiritual

7:00 a.m. **Page and Wiccan**
MYSTIC PORTAL
(Singles, 24543)
8:00 a.m. **Page and Wiccan**
MYSTIC PORTAL
(Singles, 24543)
9:00 a.m. **Page and Wiccan**
MYSTIC PORTAL
(Singles, 24543)
10:00 a.m. **Page and Wiccan**
MYSTIC PORTAL
(Singles, 24543)
11:00 a.m. **Page and Wiccan**
MYSTIC PORTAL
(Singles, 24543)
12:00 a.m. **Page and Wiccan**
MYSTIC PORTAL
(Singles, 24543)

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(Singles, 24543)
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MYSTIC PORTAL
(Singles, 24543)

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(Singles, 24543)

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11:00 a.m. **Page and Wiccan**
MYSTIC PORTAL
(Singles, 24543)
12:00 a.m. **Page and Wiccan**
MYSTIC PORTAL
(Singles, 24543)

Role-Playing Games

Continued on page 9

7:00 a.m. **Red Dragon Inn**
RPG ZONE
(L)M 80444)
8:00 a.m. **Red Dragon Inn**
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11:00 a.m. **Red Dragon Inn**
RPG ZONE
(L)M 80444)
12:00 a.m. **Red Dragon Inn**
RPG ZONE
(L)M 80444)

What's a Conference?
A conference is like listening in on a party line - but it's OK to drop in with a comment when you like. In conferences, people with similar interests share their ideas about a favorite subject - anything from games to TV shows to dating tips.

7:00 a.m. **Psychic Mystic**
MYSTIC PORTAL
(Singles, 24543)
8:00 a.m. **Psychic Mystic**
MYSTIC PORTAL
(Singles, 24543)
9:00 a.m. **Psychic Mystic**
MYSTIC PORTAL
(Singles, 24543)
10:00 a.m. **Psychic Mystic**
MYSTIC PORTAL
(Singles, 24543)
11:00 a.m. **Psychic Mystic**
MYSTIC PORTAL
(Singles, 24543)
12:00 a.m. **Psychic Mystic**
MYSTIC PORTAL
(Singles, 24543)

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
Role-Playing Games	5:00 p.m. Advanced BACRAMON DEN (Bachman 13846) Wild Cards HEARTS CLUB (Chen 9039) Base Player's Club TECH SCENE (Bachman 13715) West of the Lane RPG ZONE (Bachman 13689) The Gathering MARRIED LIFE (Lugish 39748) The Place MYSTIC PORTAL (Mann 13841) ATP Roleplay Live CHESSE CLUB (Bach 5495)	7:30 p.m. Computer ISS Galaxy RPG ZONE (Bachman 13841) ADAD Dark Side II TOURNAMENTS Bachman 48054 Relax'n's Scapula SLU-WE (Chen 4011)	7:00 p.m. Star Trek RPG ZONE (Bachman 13841) World of Warcraft SLU-WE (Chen 4011)	7:00 p.m. Amiga RPG ZONE (Chen 4892)			5:00 p.m. Star Trek BACRAMON DEN (Bachman 13841) ADAD Zone (R) BO 3:5942 Chen 70007 USS Universe CHESSE CLUB (Mann 13841) USS Potomac CLUB (FRANK 10578)	7:00 p.m. Advanced SLU-WE (Chen 4011) Star Trek BACRAMON DEN (Bachman 13841) ADAD Zone (R) BO 3:5942 Chen 70007 USS Universe CHESSE CLUB (Mann 13841) USS Potomac CLUB (FRANK 10578)
Special Interests	1:00 p.m. Red House Big Squad TECH TOWER (Chen 5239) 5:00 p.m. The Gathering MARRIED LIFE (Lugish 39748) ACAD Users (Lugish 39748) ACADEMY (Lugish 39748) 7:00 p.m. James Brown Not Just CLUBHOUSE (Lugish 39748) The Dining Room TECH TOWER (Chen 5239) Working with God SPORTS DEN (Chen 5239) 8:00 p.m. Concert TECH TOWER (Chen 5239)	5:00 p.m. Virtual Pro Society CLUBHOUSE (Chen 5239) 7:00 p.m. Star Trek BACRAMON DEN (Bachman 13841) ADAD Zone (R) BO 3:5942 Chen 70007 USS Universe CHESSE CLUB (Mann 13841) USS Potomac CLUB (FRANK 10578)	6:00 p.m. Food Fair and Recipe Club HEARTS CLUB (Chen 5239) 7:00 p.m. Star Trek BACRAMON DEN (Bachman 13841) ADAD Zone (R) BO 3:5942 Chen 70007 USS Universe CHESSE CLUB (Mann 13841) USS Potomac CLUB (FRANK 10578)	5:00 p.m. Amiga RPG ZONE (Chen 4892)	5:00 p.m. Amiga RPG ZONE (Chen 4892)	5:00 p.m. Amiga RPG ZONE (Chen 4892)	5:00 p.m. Amiga RPG ZONE (Chen 4892)	

Once you find a conference you're interested in, find out where it is by the bold type (for example, **MYSTIC PORTAL**, **SPADES PLACE**). Those are waiting rooms in the **Clubhouse**. Once in the waiting room, click the **Go to** button, select **A Conference**, and then click on the conference name desired -- you'll join immediately. And remember, you can always start your own conference! Just drop a line to box **931**. It's that easy!

This October schedule is subject to change. The most accurate, up-to-date schedule can always be found online in **Town Hall** under **Conference Schedule**. All times listed are Pacific time. All conferences listed in *blue italics* are private and require approval from the conference's host (displayed in parentheses with their mailbox number) to attend.

Member-hosted conferences and any comments, suggestions or advice given therein do not necessarily reflect the opinions of The Imaginix Network, Inc.

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Another Big Step

Look for The Imagination Network on new computers by Compaq. Imagination will be pre-loaded on all new Presario Multimedia PCs by Compaq. For more information, visit your nearest computer retailer or call Compaq at (800) 345-1518.

Sports	7 p.m. Sports Events SPORTS DEN	7 p.m. GTM: Fitness for All SPORTS DEN (SGC 10204)	8 p.m. Pack Leaders Pantheon SPORTS DEN (L2 1044)	8 p.m. MARRIED LIFE (GSGM Zone 01762)	8 p.m. Sports Score SPORTS DEN
				7 p.m. KSA: Jam Conference SPORTS DEN (Agn13ave 13077)	7 p.m. Sports Score SPORTS DEN
Support Groups	6 p.m. 12 Step Recovery MARRIED LIFE (Asteria+ 49038)	7 p.m. Recent Mandy Club TECH TOWER (KmgMMA 04101)	7 p.m. Recent Mandy Club TECH TOWER (KmgMMA 04101)	8 p.m. Dest Community CARD CLUB (Rusert 04833)	8 p.m. Dest Community CARD CLUB (Rusert 04833)
Television & Movies	7 p.m. Proteus Anonymous MARRIED LIFE (Zwerty 10560)	8 p.m. Star Wars: Return MARRIED LIFE (Kedicy 75841)	8 p.m. Star Wars: Return MARRIED LIFE (Hankley 10034)	8 p.m. Legend TV Club TEEN+RPGOUT (Luv4 48 1067)	8 p.m. Legend TV Club TEEN+RPGOUT (Luv4 48 1067)
	7 p.m. How Movie Talk HEARTS CLUB	7 p.m. The House Club SINGLES CLUB (JasmyM 14114)	7 p.m. New TV Shows TEEN+RPGOUT	8 p.m. Star Trek: Next RPG ZONE (Anndrew 15511)	8 p.m. Star Trek: Next RPG ZONE (Anndrew 15511)
				10 p.m. SHL: Fan Club HD P ROOM (TM & Jee Pidem only) (JeeSana 10505)	10 p.m. SHL: Fan Club HD P ROOM (TM & Jee Pidem only) (JeeSana 10505)

BEAT THE RED BARON...

All Red Baron tanatics, listen up. *Blaster* magazine is sponsoring a "free for all" Red Baron tournament during the month of January.

The good thing about a "free for all" is that you can play as often as you like during the month, keeping your personal best score for the final tally.

Prizes are forthcoming for the top players.



Look for more details

in the "INN Tournaments" posting of the Pilots Lounge bulletin board and the "INN Special Events" bulletin board in the Help Room.



Seventeen Magazine NTN Trivia Contest

From the contest staged October 9:

ANGEL STDNER	KEITHH RDSE	SHYSTER
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From the contest staged October 16:

TAYLDR TODD	RAIRI KRYSTY	LISAW
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From the contest staged October 23:

MARI JIMBO	JEAN SLTY	SYL
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From the contest staged October 30:

JEAN TIF	KEITHH OUCHIE	GRIV
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Billboard magazine NTN Trivia Contest

From the contest staged October 5:

JOHNH HUGS	JEAN JT	OUG
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From the contest staged October 12:

DUG SKIBD	7NTXX SYL	JT
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From the contest staged October 19:

JIM CMC	HDNEY JT	SKIBD
------------	-------------	-------

From the contest staged October 26:

MIKE BUNNY	CAGIRL JOHNT	GRIV
---------------	-----------------	------

Top NTN Triviots

From the month of October:

JOHNT
SHEER
LILKID

Remember, you can't take the top prize every month! Winners in one month are disqualified from taking the top prize for the next month so that everyone gets a chance. Contests void where prohibited by law. Employees of The Imagination Network are ineligible.

Holiday Hopefuls

Think you know your partridge in a pear tree from plum pudding? Planning a date this New Years Eve with Dick Clark? If the answer is "yes" we'd like you to play NTN Holiday Trivia in Imagination this December.

As always, we'll reward the winners with cool prizes. But remember that the real fun is in the playing. Check online listings for times and places.



New Rooms Open Up

Same of your favorite haunts in The Imagination Network have new names.

We renamed several of the rooms in October. Here's a list of the old and new rooms so that you can find your old friends.

The Tree House became the Card Crib.

Euchre II became Flip N Checkers.

Ga Sierra2 became Go Mages Den.

Burlington, CA 94010.
or 577 Airport Blvd., Suite 300,
Imaginings Editor, at E-mail Box 915.
Drop a line to Gretchen Lee.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

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8 DECEMBER 1994

IMAGINATION!™ Year In Review

As each year draws to a close, I like to take a few minutes to look back and see what's worth noting. At The Imagination Network, we've got good reason to look back with pride at what we were able to accomplish together in 1994.

What stands out for me is the way we've been able to dramatically expand and improve services to our members. This year, we inaugurated exclusive online Celebrity Conferences. From the voice of TV's Bart Simpson to master photographer Eric Lawton, we've put you in direct contact with some of the most interesting people around.

For the chess and bridge enthusiasts, we've put together live online coverage of major tournaments. At the same time, we've added online events like NTN Trivia and the Lion King animation contest to give all of our members, young and old alike, the opportunity to develop - and show off - new talents learned via The Imagination Network.

Plus, we've added 9600 baud access rate and a more reliable back end to our huge computer system. And, we've made it even easier for newcomers to get around, with a new program called HOSTS.

The big news, of course, is that AT&T chose to make The Imagination Network a wholly-owned subsidiary. (For more info, see the article on page 2.) As we continue to grow together, look for even more things in store for 1995, starting early in the year when Version 2.4 will become available.

Now, that's what I'd call glad tidings for the new year.

See you in Imagination!

Tom Pomeroy, a.k.a. TomP. Tom Pomeroy is the Vice President of Marketing and Sales at The Imagination Network.

Fresh Face

Version 2.4 will be coming to everyone in Imagination in early 1995. But some of you may already have caught a glimpse of it because our systems operators, INN University instructors and HOSTS are testing the new software. Once we're satisfied the upgrade is just right, we'll ship it to all of our members. Meanwhile, please be patient. Even if you call or write, we can't ship the new software until it's ready!